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Message Text

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60
ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

THE FOLLOWING ARE RESULTS OF CONVERSATION WITH RELIABLE SOURCE.

1. "CONFRONTO" AT THE REGION
BOTH THE DC AND THE PCI DENY THAT THE LEGISLATIVE PACT IN OPERATION

AT THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY BETWEEN THE CENTER-LEFT GIUNTA AND THE COMMUNISTS HAS PLACED THE PCI IN THE GOVERNMENT AREA. ACTUALLY IT IS TRUE. TWO FACTS DEMONSTRATE THAT THE COMMUNISTS FULLY PARTICIPATE TO THE REAL IF NOT YET FORMAL EXERCISE OF POWER AT THE REGION:
1) THE ASSEMBLY IS ABOUT TO VOTE ON A NEW "REGOLAMENTO DELLE COMMISSIONI PROVINCIALI DI CONTROLLO" (IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES THROUGH
WHICH THE DC HAS CONTROLLED SICILIAN MUNICIPALITIES AND ORGANIZED ITS GRASSROOTS CLIENTELE, PRACTICALLY UNCHECKED UP TO NOW). THE NEW "REGOLAMENTO" WILL OPEN THE DOORS OF THE "COMMISSIONI PROVINCIALI DI CONTROLLO" TO THE PCI FOR THE FIRST TIME. 2) THE PCI IS ABOUT TO ENTER WITH ITS APPOINTEES THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS OF THE REGION'S FUND-REACH ECONOMIC ENTITIES.

2. "RESIGNATION OF MAYOR MARCHELLO"
THE NAPLES SCENARIO IS NOT QUITE PALERMO'S. THE GAVA'S WERE THE RULING FAMILY OF NAPLES, AND WHEN IT FELL, THAT WAS THE END OF IT. BOSS GIOIA (FANFANIANO) RULES PALERMO TOGETHER WITH THE LIMA
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(ANDREOTTIANO) AND NICOLETTI (FORZE NUOVE) GROUPS. POWER, THEREFORE,

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IS MORE DIFFUSE AND ARTICULATED. THIS SHOULD PREVENT IN PALERMO A NEAPOLITAN-STYLE DC DEBACLE.

3. "LUDOVICO CORRAO" (INDIPENDENT PCI SENATOR FROM SICILY)
THE RESIGNATION AS SENATOR OF LUDOVICO CORRAO AND HIS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE PCI REGIONAL SECRETARY ACHILLE OCCHETTO TOOK THE LID OFF AN UNTIDY--FOR THE PCI--SITUATION IN THE WHOLE PROVINCE OF TRAPANI. HERE THE COMMUNISTS SUFFERED MAJOR SETBACKS IN THE JUNE 15 ELECTION. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, THESE SETBACKS OCCURRED IN COMMUNIST
-
LED MUNICIPALITIES, WHERE PCI ADMINISTRATORS HAD DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES FOR CORRUPTION, ARROGANCE AND INEFFECTUALITY. PCI ROME HEADQUARTERS REACTED IMMEDIATELY BY FIRING A COUPLE OF THEM WITHIN WEEKS OF THE ELECTION AND SENT DOWN FROM ROME A NEWPRO-CONSUL, PROVINCIAL SECRETARY VELTRONI.
LUDOVICO CORRAO, WHO HAD BEEN ELECTED SENATOR RUNNING ON THE PCI TICKET AS AN INDIPENDENT, IMMEDIATELY SENSED THAT THE PCI WAS GIVING HIM UP. WITH A VERY CONTROVERSIAL PAST, CORRAO HAD BEEN OPERATING IN COMMUNIST CIRCLES AS WOULD ANY SHREWD DC BOSS. HIS DEFENSE OF FORMER EMS PRESIDENTE GRAZIANO VERZOTTO WAS A CHALLENGE ITSELF TO THE PCI. IN FACT, VERZOTTO, INSTIGATED BY CORRAO, HAD SENT BURNING ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE PCI FROM HIS SECURE HIDING PLACES. THUS THE ANTI-VERZOTTO CAMPAIGN HAD BECOME TOO MUCH OF AN IMPORTANT PROPAGANDA FLAG FOR THE PCI TO CLOSE ITS EYES TO CORRAO. THE PCITHEREFORE PUT IN MOTION HIS GRADUAL "EMARGINAZIONE". THE PARTY

STRONG AND INFLUENTIAL AS IT IS TODAY, NO LONGER NEEDS THE HELP OF FLAMBOYANT AND PICTURESQUE FIGURES SUCH AS CORRAO. BUT, CORRAO DECIDED TO ANTICIPATE PCI FUTURE MOVES BY RESIGNING AND CHARGING THAT HE HAD BEEN THE VICTIM OF PARTY REPRESSION.
(A FULL ACCOUNT OF CORRAO'S RESIGNATION WILL FOLLOW IN A CLASSIFIED MEMO). CHIAVARINI

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